

NEWS RELEASE

Department of Social Services



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Monday, October 22, 2007

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November 4-10 is Long-Term Care Awareness Week

Now is the time to start planning ahead for your long-term care needs!

PIERRE, S.D. – The week of November 4-10, 2007, is National Long-Term Care Awareness Week and a time to start planning ahead for your long-term care needs. During Long-Term Care Awareness Week, the State of South Dakota is offering public education sessions to inform and educate individuals on the Long-Term Care Partnership Program. Sessions will be held in the following communities: Aberdeen, Mobridge, Eagle Butte, Gettysburg and Pierre.

If you, a family member, friend or co-worker would like to find out more about long-term care, the costs related to it, how to plan for long-term care needs, what Medicare and Medicaid will cover and how the Long-Term Care Partnership Program can help you, now is your chance. The education sessions are free and open to the public. Below are the times, dates and locations for the week of November 4-10. Each session is scheduled for one hour.

ABERDEEN: Monday, November 5, 2007

Location: Avera St. Lukes Education Center, 709 6th Ave. SE

Time: Sessions will be held at 9 a.m., noon and 5:30 p.m -- all times are Central Time.

MOBRIDGE: Tuesday, November 6, 2007

Location: Wrangler Inn, 820 West Grand Crossing

Time: Sessions will be held at 9 a.m., noon and 5:30 p.m -- all times are Central Time.

EAGLE BUTTE: Wednesday, November 7, 2007

Location: Super 8 Motel, US Highway 212 South

Time: Sessions will be held at 9 a.m., noon and 5:30 p.m -- all times are Mountain Time.

GETTYSBURG: Thursday, November 8, 2007

Location: Villa Commons, Medical Center, 606 E. Garfield Ave.

Time: Sessions will be held at 9 a.m., noon and 5:30 p.m -- all times are Central Time.

PIERRE: Friday, November 9, 2007

Location: Visitor's Center at Capital Lake

Time: Sessions will be held at 9 a.m., noon and 3 p.m -- all times are Central Time.

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Location: Cultural Heritage Center, 900 Governors Drive

Time: Session will be held at 5:30 p.m Central Time.

About the Long-Term Care Partnership Program: The Long-Term Care Partnership Program is a public-private partnership offering individuals quality, affordable long-term care insurance. Once private insurance benefits are used, special Medicaid eligibility rules are applied if additional coverage is necessary. The State of South Dakota will continue offering community education sessions to educate and inform citizens on the Long-Term Care Partnership Program and the need to plan ahead and prepare for long-term care. In December, education sessions will be held in Sioux Falls, Madison, Redfield, Miller, Huron and Mitchell. If you are unable to attend an education session, free educational conference calls are also available by calling Heather at 605-336-1745. For more information, please visit www.ltcpartnership.sd.gov.

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About the National Long-Term Care Awareness Week: Long-term care insurance providers have joined forces to increase awareness on the need to plan ahead for long-term care during the month of November. The American Association for Long-Term Care Insurance is putting on the "Power of One Million" campaign, which seeks to mobilize 10,000 insurance and financial professionals who will each communicate with 100 clients about the importance of long-term care planning. National Long-Term Care Awareness Week takes place November 4-10, 2007. For more information, please visit www.yourltcsuccess.com.